

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, undated, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel Hubbard to Mr Alexander Graham Bell. Friday Evening. 1877 (?)
My dear Alec:

I hope you have not heard of the news I have in store for you. Do you remember the little cottage that fronts us, intercepting the sea, where we spent our first year here 1874. The woman, who owns the house now takes boarders and who do you think occupies two rooms? Your father's friend Mrs. Gen. Lander. She knows our old admirer Mr. Flagg who induced her to come here. He must have told her of my being here with Cousin Sam for she introduced herself to him on the beach, and through him to me. We neither of us understood the name, and it was not until this evening that Mrs. Flagg told Cousin Mary who she was, and that she was anxious to see me. I would have called upon her tonight but she is dining at the Flagg's Shall go tomorrow. Is it not funny she should have followed me down here? I remember so well what you and your father said about her. She thinks Soonest perfectly detestable Mrs. Flagg said, and leaves pretty soon. I do not wonder, only bathers would like the place and she does not like bathing.

Saturday — You must excuse my pencil writing I want this to go by Capt. Baxter and as he leaves at Breakfast time, I wrote about Mrs. Lauder while waiting for Carrie to get into bed. It is half past six now and I am writing in bed! I hope you can decipher this, I am sorry but cannot help it. Thank you for the paper you sent me. The notice is pretty nearly correct is it not? I am so glad the papers are noticing you now. I wonder what you are doing Canada or if your father and mother will not let you work. in

I have not heard from you yet and shall not, now until tomorrow.

I am disappointed though I know it is not your fault.

Library of Congress

Mamma writes Papa is still detained in W-

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We had a nice time bathing yesterday, though I was rather afraid, and Mr. Flagg tumbled over Carrie, and kept her down under the ropes until it hurt her.

Time to get up-

Adieu love to your father and Mother, I hope your mother liked the cup, and your Cousin the coffee cups.

Ever lovingly, Mabel. Cousin Mary has been scolding me like anything for writing after going up stairs and before breakfast, so you must not expect any more such letters. I shall also remember what she said about the hurtfulness of such goings on, and practice it off on you — so beware.